AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- At time of the action: Claims 1-4, 9-13, 16, 18-26, 28, 29, and 32-36.

- Amended claims: Claims 1, 10, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 32, 33, and 35.

- Canceled claims: Claims 9, 11, 13, 29, and 34.

- After this response: Claims 1-4, 10, 12, 16, 18-26, 28, 32, 33, 35, and 36.

1.   (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates file sharing between at least any two computers, comprising:

an authentication component that verifies a user's identity based in part on a user-based input to determine whether a user has access rights to the file;

a content analysis component that analyzes at least one file for which sharing is desired, the content analysis is based on at least one of a file type, a file content, a file size, or a file security level resulting in content-related information;

[[an]] a channel analysis component that identifies and determines whether any communication channels are available to share the file between the at least two computers based in part on one or more characteristics of the file[[,]] communicated to the channel analysis component from the content analysis component;

a channel controller component that selects at least one communication channel that is determined to be available to transport the file based in part upon analysis of the one or more characteristics of the file;

one or more communication channels comprising a module installed on a ~~sender~~ sender's communication system and a module installed on a recipient's communication system, the module installed on the sender's communication system [[that]] divides a large file into two or more smaller chunks, whereby each chunk is sent separately to the receiver and the receiver acknowledges receipt of each chunk before a subsequent chunk is sent; and

the two or more chunks are encrypted in part by the module on the sender's communication system and decrypted in part by the module on the recipient's

communication system and the two or more chunks are identified with <u>one or more</u> special keys in <u>a </u>subject line or <u>an</u> email <u>header</u> ~~headers~~.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a virtual share space that is located on a primary computer and accessed using at least one communication channel and stores at least one file to be shared with one or more secondary computers.

3.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 2, the at least one file accessed using a unique key.

4.   (Original)   The system of claim 1, the communication channels comprising email, internet, server, proxy server, and direct access.

5.   (Canceled).

6.   (Canceled).

7.   (Canceled).

8.   (Canceled).

9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates file sharing comprising:

a content analysis component that analyzes at least one file for which sharing is desired, the analysis is based on at least one of a file type, a file content, a file size, or a file security level, wherein the at least one file is located in one or more virtual share spaces;

a channel analysis component that assesses at least one of a security level threshold, a file size threshold, availability or compatibility of a plurality of channels and determines based upon the channel analysis of the content analysis component the most appropriate channel to employ to share the at least one file; [[and]]

a channel controller component that selects at least one communication channel that is determined to be available to transport the at least one file based at least in part upon the channel and analysis and activates the selected channel; and

a authentication component that authenticates input to facilitate determining that a user has requisite access rights to gain access to the at least one file in a virtual space at least in part by matching a user-based input to one or more listing comprising users who are pre-approved for access as indicated by at least one of their username, a password, an email address, a network name, or a computer name, wherein the user is removed and no longer granted access when the user no longer needs access or has lost access, wherein the user is removed by dragging or deleting their name from the virtual space.

11.   (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 11, the authentication component identifies the user by at least one of multiple personas, usernames, nicknames, or aliases.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, one or more communication channels are deemed unavailable if they fail to satisfy the full size threshold.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 10 located on a first computer that originates the file to be shared and on at least a second computer that desires access to such content.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 18, the first computer is located at a first location and the second computer is located at a second location and both computers correspond to one user.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 18, the first computer corresponds to a first user and the second computer corresponds to a second user, the first user being different from the second user.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 10, access to at least a first portion of the at least one file is granted to a first computer, such that only the first computer is permitted to access the portion.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[0]] 10, the channel analysis component communicates with an unknown computer to determine available communication channels and access rights of the computer at least in part by extracting information from the unknown computer using an open communication channel to detect user information.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, the open communication channel is an email channel.

24. (Currently Amended) A content-sharing and transport method comprising:

creating one or more virtual share spaces on a primary computer to maintain content for sharing with other secondary computers;

receiving user-based input from a receiver in request to access content designated for sharing on the virtual share space;

authenticating the user-based input to confirm at least one of user identity or user access rights to the content; [[and]]

selecting at least one communication channel to facilitate sharing with or transporting the content from the virtual share space to a secondary computer based at least in part on availability, analysis of the content, security threshold of the content and content size, wherein the selecting is performed by a channel analysis component;

installing a module on a sender's communication system and a recipient's communication system;

dividing a large file into two or more smaller chunks utilizing the module installed on the sender's communication system, wherein the two or more chunks are identified with one or more special keys in a subject line or an email header;

sending each chunk separately to the receiver;

intercepting each chunk using the module on the recipient's communication system, wherein the module is further configured to:

remove each chunk from the communication channel; and

save each chunk in a local file on the secondary computer;

acknowledging receipt of each chunk before sending a subsequent chunk;

assembling the two or more chunks to create a copy of the content;

encrypting the two or more chunks before sending each chunk; and

decrypting each chunk before or during the assembling of the two or more chunks, wherein the two or more chunks.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[0]] <u>24</u>, further comprising[[:]]

approving access rights to one or more users for access to at least one virtual share space and storing the access rights alongside the respective content.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[0]] <u>24</u>, further comprising assigning a unique key to the one or more virtual share spaces to facilitate permitting anytime access to at least a portion of the content in the virtual share space.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[0]] <u>24</u>, the communication channel is any one of email, server, internet, direct access to the content, and/or proxy server.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

31. (Canceled).

32.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[0]] 28, availability of the email channel depends in part on email service associated therewith.

33.   (Currently Amended) A content-sharing system comprising:

means for receiving user-based input in request to access content designated for sharing;

means for determining at least one communication channel to employ to facilitate sharing with or transporting the content from the virtual share space to another computer based at least in part on availability, analysis of the content, the content security and content size, wherein the means for determining comprises at least a channel analysis component;

means for communicating between computers that divides a large file into two or more smaller chunks, whereby each chunk is sent separately and acknowledged upon receipt before a subsequent chunk is sent;

means for encrypting the two or more chunks;

means for decrypting the two or more chunks; and

means for identifying the two or more chunks with special keys in subject line or email headers.

34.   (Canceled).

35.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon the system of claim 1.

36.   (Previously Presented) A system that facilitates sharing content between at least any two computers comprising:

an authentication component that verifies a user's identity based in part on user-based input to determine whether the user has access rights to the content;

an analysis component that identifies and determines whether any communication channels are available to share the content between the at least two computers based at least in part on one or more characteristics of the content;

a channel controller component that selects at least one communication channel that is determined to be available to transport the content based at least in part upon analysis of the content and security of the content;

one or more communication channels comprising a module installed on a sender and a recipient's communication system that divides a large file into two or more smaller chunks, whereby each chunk is sent separately to the receiver and the receiver acknowledges receipt of each chunk before a subsequent chunk is sent, wherein the two or more chunks are encrypted in part by the module on the sender's communication system and decrypted in part by module on the recipient's communication system and the two or more chunks are identified with special keys in subject line or email headers; and

a virtual share space that stores content to be shared with one or more other computers, wherein the virtual share space is accessed by at least one of at least one communication channel or a unique key.